

Will the broadcast flag interfere with consumers ability to make copies of DTV content for their personal use, either on personal video recorders or removable media?

I am certain that interest groups (MPAA,RIAA)will attempt to get lawmakers to mandate copy prevention on all consumer electronics that are compatable with the new technology meaning the end of fair use rights. Thought I do not know if it will be tolerated by consumers.

Would the digital flag interfere with consumers ability to send DTV content across networks, such as home digital networks connecting digital set top boxes, digital recorders, digital servers and digital display devices? Again I think that the MPAA had a use in mind for this technology to end fair use rights. Distinguishing between fair use and illegal violations may not be possible in consumer electronics.

Would the broadcast flag requirement limit consumers ability to use their existing electronic equipment (equipment not built to look for the flag) or make it difficult to use older components with new equipment that is compliant with the broadcast flag standard?

What ever new standard copy prevention technology is employed. It will have to disable older model DTV and HDTV systems to be effective thus cheating consumers who early on bought the new devices.

Would a broadcast flag requirement limit the development of future equipment providing consumers with new options?

The incorporation of this standard into any device in an attempt to prevent copying will likely render the product unusable for new technologys.

What will be the cost impact, if any, that a broadcast flag requirement would have on consumer electronics equipment?

The inclusion of hardware systems to use the the broadcast flag will no doubt be a burden to be born by consumers and I fear that consumers or taxpayers might end up forced to pay for enforcement of such a system

Other Comments:

I think it is a crime that any technology that strips consumers of fair use rights should be considered for the airwaves which are considered public property.